

Gc
929.2
Sh2709s
1966394

M. L.

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

J

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01329 3482

The Shaw family in Lexington, Kentucky *Ky.*

comp. by Ralph M. Shaw

Shaw family

X664018.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2019

<https://archive.org/details/shawfamilyinlexi00shaw>

Chicago, December 22, 1928

My dear Mr. Staples:-

Some ten days ago I received from my Aunt Julia your history of the "Shaw family" in Lexington, Kentucky.

I had supposed from previous correspondence with her that you had something other than what you sent me several years ago, but I find upon comparing that it is substantially the same. Accordingly, I am returning it with many thanks for your courtesy and kindness.

I think, as the result of the information which you and Aunt Julia were able to give me, that I have practically cleaned the whole matter up.

Your record shows that six Shaw brothers originally came from North Adams, Mass., to Lexington. Two of them - Nathaniel and Hiram - remained in Lexington; one went to Missouri, one went to Georgia, and two returned to Massachusetts.

The genealogical tree which the Cyclopedia of America Biography exhibited to me showed that five brothers went from North Adams to Lexington; that one was named Amyntas, one Hiram, and one Nathaniel. They claim that Amyntas was my great grandfather. You, on the other hand, claim that Hiram was my great grandfather.

What I was anxious to ascertain was whether there was any Amyntas among the brothers at all. My Aunt Julia, in her correspondence, was at first inclined to think there was no one by the name of Amyntas, but in each of her last two letters she refers to the "Ammi" as being a very

familiar name.

Personally, I am satisfied that "Amni" is nothing more than a nickname or abbreviation of the name "Amyntas" and that the Cyclopedia of American Biography is correct in saying that the name of one of the brothers who originally emigrated from Massachusetts to Lexington was either named Amni or Amyntas, and the family is correct.

On the other hand, I am equally satisfied that you are correct in saying that my great grandfather's name was Hiram.

Just as I am dictating this letter the representative of the Cyclopedia of American Biography calls upon me and gives as the names of four of the brothers the following:

Amyntas, born in 1790
Cassini, born in 1790
Hiram, and
Nathaniel.

Under all the circumstances I am inclined to think that the genealogical tree is now correct. The cyclopedia of American Biography will publish it in the course of the next two or three months.

With many thanks for your interest in the matter, and wishing you all the compliments of the Season, I beg to remain

Very truly yours,

Signed) Ralph M. Shaw

Mr. C. R. Staples
646 Central Avenue,
Lexington, Kentucky

Sarah E. Shaw	was born Mar. 29th,	1802
Nathaniel Shaw	" " Jan. 31,	1804
Ann T. Shaw	Apl. 18,	1806
Armi Shaw	Dec. 18,	1807
Hiram Shaw	Aug. 13,	1809
Nancy Shaw	Jan. 31,	1812
John P. Shaw	Oct. 29,	1814

Children of Nathaniel Shaw and Emma March:

Hiram Shaw	born Mar. 22,	1835
Catharine M.	" Apl. 26,	1837
Emma R.	" Aug. 1,	1839
Julia H.	" Feb. 3,	1842
Ann Eliza	" Oct. 4,	1844
Margaret P.	" Jan. 6,	1847

Nathaniel Shaw died February 15, 1849. Aged 45 years & 15 days

Compiled by Mr. Ralph M. Shaw
Chicago, Illinois

THE SHAW FAMILY IN LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

According to history handed down in the family, there were six Shaw brothers who came to Lexington between the years 1785 and 1800 from North Adams, Mass. One went to Georgia after a short stay in Lexington and another went to Missouri, while two returned to their former home. Nathaniel (1) and Hiram (1) settled in Lexington and the records attached are regarding them alone.

As to what became of ~~of~~ Nathaniel (1) there is no record unless it is the following: There was a Nathaniel Shaw, who died in 1803 and left a daughter named Sarah, then under age, as she appeared before the Tayette Court and selected Isaac Wells as her Guardian in October 1806. His will was destroyed in the Court House fire of 1803 but the appraisement of his estate showed value of \$12 pds, 8s, 6d., which was filed by Peter Gatewood, Joseph Rutherford and Abraham Bowman during July Court 1807. Isaac Wells and Geo. S. Smith were executors of the estate and by reason of the fire, they came into Court and were reappointed. The daughter married Nelson Turner Jan. 7th 1808. The executors were still working on the settlement in 1806, see Deed Book B- 312. One entire page of the transaction of this Nathaniel Shaw are enclosed. The farm land shown was part of 44,000 acres given to Gen'l Andrew Lewis as a Military grant. Part of the personalty was two copper stills, worms, buckets, tubs four horses and four negroes.

Hiram (1) was a hat maker by trade and prospered from the start and on Christmas day 1800 he married Peggy Pilcher, who had come to Lexington from Virginia. She is the daughter of Joshua Pilcher. All that could be learned of her is that she had two brothers who served in Army under "Mad Anthony" Wayne and one brother who was appointed Indian Agent under President VanBuren. Hiram (1) went into business with John Lowry under firm name of Lowry & Shaw. Their place of business was on corner of Main and Broadway, then called Main and Cross street. This firm did not prosper and Hiram (1) died leaving his wife and children in destitute circumstances. The oldest child was Nathaniel (2) who had been born in 1804 and was sixteen or eighteen years of age, when his father died. He had been working in the County Clerk's office as a Writer, preparing to study Law but at his father's death he left this employment and became an apprentice under Thomas B. Megowan, in the cabinet making trade. He worked for Megowan several years and then secured work as Clerk on the Mississippi River on Steamboats operated by the Hull and Marsh families at Madison, Indiana. Nathaniel (2) was so engaged until he was made Captain of the "Brandywine" and on September 19th, 1832 he was married to Miss Emma Marsh (daughter of Richard and Catherine (Milward) Marsh) by Rev. N. H. Hall. About one year later he left the River and engaged in hat making in Lexington with James C. White of Woodford County, Kentucky, as a partner. He died in 1849 leaving six children.

Several years after the firm of White & Shaw started, Hiram (2) purchased White's interest and the firm became N. & H. Shaw. This Hiram was a younger

brother of Nathaniel (2) and was born in Lexington August 13th, 1809 and at fourteen years of age, was apprenticed to Joseph Putman, who manufactured Wool Carding machines. Hiram (2) was with Putman until the former was about 24 years of age, and he then purchased White's interests. He was married to Miss Nancy Marsh on March 7th, 1838 by the Rev. W. Holman (Methodist), see Book 1-122. The firm of N. & M. Shaw moved from Main & Broadway to a building used by John T. Miller, then across the street to where McMichael's Dry Goods Store was located until recent years, then the firm moved opposite the Court House, where they kept up the making of hats, with Theodore C. Marsh as foreman. Hiram (2) died in May 1873 leaving six children.

There are in the Fayette Court House, Lexington, Ky., 193 deeds, mortgages & wills in which some of the Shaws figured and it was necessary to examine all of these but the abstracts enclosed are only those which contain information or might be of interest to some member of the younger generation. It was necessary to examine these deeds to see if some hint of the former residence of the first two Shaws might not be had, or some relationship, other than their direct families in Lexington.

1966394

North Adams, Mass. is in Berkshire County and is the northwest county in that State. New York and Vermont States corner just west of Berkshire County and my investigation made of the Shaws war service should include service in New York Regiments on account of the habit of the War Department to enlist men for 60 to 90 days and when these men were discharged away from home, to call them back into service where they were discharged and the papers would then show the man as enlisting from the point of discharge. There was 21 Nathaniel Shaws in service during the Revolutionary War from Massachusetts, some of them were in the navy. The Roster shows two of this name enlisting from Berkshire County. As Vermont was a part of Massachusetts until several years after this War, the Rosters for that State should be inspected.

In regard to the Marsh family. The father of Emma and Nancy Marsh, was Richard (2) Marsh. He was a son of Richard Marsh (1) who came to Lexington from either New Jersey or New York and one report is from Massachusetts. He is reported to have had a Land Grant for military services but this feature has not yet been followed up to conclusion. Richard Marsh (1) will is attached from copy his heirs can be determined. The John Marsh (1) named married Elizabeth Hull, daughter of John Hull and another daughter married Joseph Putman named above. The will of Richard Marsh (1) was witnessed by Richard Monks and John Hull, both of whom served during the War with England and the latter bore particularly interesting part. The pension department at Washington reports 36 Richard Marshes on rolls and there have been no papers, deed or wills here that will throw any light on the military service of this man. Investigation is now being made with department of Military Land Grants. The entire Marsh and Hull families were machine builders and had interests in Madison, Ind. at an early date, and finally several branches of both families moved to that point where they built steamboats for River trade. Investigation at that point develops both families have passed out of the records account lack of male births.

At this writing (March 1924) there are no Shaws left in Fayette County, Kentucky, excepting Misses Julia and Margaret Shaw.

There are a large number of Shaws in adjoining Counties, Madison, Woodford, Franklin and Jessamine. An interview with the heads of all the families develops all of them are descended from John Robert Shaw. This man came to

United States as a British Soldier and according to his Memoirs, published by Dan'l Bradford in 1807, he was captured in his first battle by Smallwood's Maryland Regiment and then he joined the New York Regiment of Col. Schuyler. He was in this regiment until the close of the war and then served under Gen. Harmer and Gen. St. Clair and came to Lexington in 1791, and married a ward of Col. Robt. Patterson and died in 1814. He left a widow, Susannah and five children, Cepithia, Sarah, John, Mary and Henry. Deed Book V-104 gives these heirs. He never claimed relationship with families of Nathaniel or Hiram Shaw. This information is given to prevent confusion to any future investigation.

Extracts from the Marriage Records of Fayette County are enclosed, showing any names that are on this record that could have been connected with the Shaws.

There are no Pilchers left here excepting one family, who are now just starting investigation of their family. In 1911 Margaret C. Pilcher, at Nashville, Tenn., published "Historical sketch of Pilcher & Campbell families" on press of Marshall & Bruce, but no copy of this publication can be located here.

Extracts from Lexington City Directory of 1838 also enclosed as item of interest. The Richard Marsh named was No. 3 of that name and became later, Editor of the Lexington Observer & Reporter. He married a daughter of Bushrod Boswell, and died in 1880. His widow is the source from whom a great deal of the above information was secured before her death. The Directory named is now owned by Wm. R. Wilward (Jr) and contains no information of interest to the Shaws excepting as shown.

The files of the Lexington Paper of that period - The Kentucke Gazette - contains no local news items but only advertisements, Acts of Congress and Various European News. The advertisement of Nathaniel Shaw enclosed, is printed alongside the item of Napoleon taking possession of the City of Paris and the King of France fleeing to Germany. Local news were not published until latter part of 1832.

The United States Census for State of Kentucky in 1800 was destroyed during the War of 1812, when the British Army captured Washington and burned the Public buildings. For this reason it was necessary to go over the Tax books of that period, but this developed only the information shown.

There is no early Church record of the Shaws or Marsh family in Lexington. The first item of interest is the following:

Episcopal Church "Mrs. Ann Usher confirmed July 26th
1829, died in Cholera June 16th, 1833"

The list of the victims of the Cholera epidemic during the year 1833 does not contain any Shaws, but does contain several Marshs' and Halls, but only those who were born since 1800.

Neither the Presbyterian nor Episcopal Cemetery had any Shaws or Marshs buried in same. The present Lexington Cemetery was established in Thos. E. Boswell's woodland in October 1849. The Hull family were all buried at Alleghan, the present home of Mrs. C. W. Burt, on Nicholasville Pike 1 1/2

miles from Lexington. A list of these headstones is enclosed.

The best genealogies published that might be of interest are:

SHAW - The name and Genealogy by Geo. Castor Martin, Asbury Park, N.J. published by Martin and Allardyce during 1913.

Genealogy of Marsh Family by D.W. Marsh, Amherst, press of J. E. Williams, 1886.

Marsh Genealogy by D.W. Marsh, Amherst, press of Carpenter & Morehouse, 1896.

Genealogy of George Marsh, by E. J. Marsh, press of F. N. Boutwell, 1887.

John Marsh Descendants, by L.B. Marsh, press of J.E. Williams, 1888.

Shaw Genealogy, by Joel Munsell & Sons, Albany, N.Y.

Pilcher Genealogy, by Joel Munsell & Sons, Albany, N.Y.

Extracts from Marriage Records of Fayette County

Sally E. Shaw to Nelson Turner, Book 1, page 9, by J. Shackelford, Jan. 7th, 1808.

Elizabeth Pilcher to Thos. Johnson, Book 1, page 28 by J. Shackelford, Jan. 8th, 1816

Patsey Pilcher, to Jas. A. Watson, Book 1, Page 41, by J. Shackelford, ----- 1819

Mason Pilcher to Catherine Bright, Book 1, page 47., by J. Fishback, Apr. 1821, .

Elizabeth Marsh to Henry Rogers, Book 1, Page 122, by N.H. Hall Sept. 19th, 1832

Nathaniel Shaw to Emma Marsh, Book 1, Page 98, by N.H. Hall, Sept. 19th, 1832

Hiram Shaw, to Nancy Marsh, Book 1, Page 122, by W. Holman, Marsh 7th, 1838

Zacheus Pilcher to Jemima Collins, Book 1, page 10 by J. Shackelford, Feb. 12th, 1809

Benj. Pilcher to Mary Plunkett, Book 1, Page 76, by C.M. Cloud, returned with 20 other marriages dated dated, Nov. 7th, 1827

John Pilcher to Sally Moore, Book 1, page 67
by Jas. Elmore, May 12th, 1825

Alex. S. Pilcher to Lucy Pilcher, Book 1, page 74,
by W. Collins, Sept. 25th, 1826

Nancy Pilcher to Jas. Headley, Book 1, page 66,
by J. Fishback, May 1st, 1824

Lewis Pilcher to Nancy Shaw, Book 1, page 85,
by J. Fishback, Jan. 2nd, 1830

Delila Shaw to A. R. Freeman, Book 1, page 58,
by R.M. Cunningham, Oct. 25th, 1815

Since the writing of the attached SHAW FAMILY, the will of Joshua Pilcher has been found and copy is attached. He died during the Summer of 1810, as his will was probated during August of that year. He does not mention any of his children excepting his son John. After making bequest to John, he says regarding the balance "I wish it to be divided amongst all of my children".

According to Virginia Records as published by Virginia Historical Society, Margaret Pilcher, who married Hiram Shaw (1) on Christmas Day 1800, was the daughter of Joshua Pilcher, and she was born in Virginia in 1777 and removed with balance of her family to Kentucky when she was 16 years of age. She was the only girl in the family and her brothers were - Fielding, Shadrack, Benjamin, Zachariah, Moses, John and Joshua (3)

The father of this family was born in Culpepper County, Va. and is reported to me as being the Son of Joshua Pilcher (1). No investigation regarding this last named has been made.

The copy or extract from U.S. Census of 1810, shows only Nancy (Margaret's Mother) and Zachariah Pilcher as living in Lexington.

The spelling of names in deeds, marriage records, etc. in the attached are all copied verbatim:

Hiram Shaw (1) & Margaret (Pilcher) Shaw had issue;

Nathaniel Shaw (2) b. Jan. 31st 1804, m. Emma Marsh, d. Feb. 15, 1849

Ann T. Shaw (2) b. April 18th 1806, evidently died young.

Ammi Shaw, b. Dec. 18th 1807, evidently died young

Hiram Shaw (2) b. Aug. 13th 1809 m. Nancy Marsh.

Nancy Shaw (2) Jan. 31st 1812, m. Lewis Pilcher (Miss Nannie Pilcher relict of Lewis Pilcher died Oct. 14, 1848 at house of her daughter, Mrs. Shaw. Lex. O & R., Oct. 14, 1848

John P. Shaw b. Oct. 29th 1814, evidently died young

Nathaniel Shaw & Emma (Marsh) Shaw had issue:

Hiram Shaw (3) b. March 22nd 1835 m. _____ Martin

Catherine M. Shaw, b. Apr. 26th 1837 m. Pope Freeman.

Emma R. Shaw, b. Aug. 1st 1839, never married.

Julia H. Shaw, b. Feb. 3rd 1842, " "

Ann Eliza Shaw, b. Oct. 4th 1844, m. _____ Pleasants, 2nd mar. Carpenter.

Margaret P. Shaw, b. Jan. 6th 1847, never married.

Hiram Shaw (2) and Nancy (Marsh) Shaw had issue :

Joshua Pilcher Shaw, married Miss Scott, no issue

Agnes Usher Shaw, m. Geo. Hamilton, d. Nov. 5th, 1924

Joseph Milward Shaw, died single

Kate Marsh Shaw, never married

Theodore Marsh Shaw, never married.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

